C R I M E  D O W N

D A M E S  B O A S T S

My yesterday boasted in crime taking a dive during his contribution to the budget debate in the House of Assembly. During his tenure in office the quarter of 2019 overall crime was down by seven percent compared to the numbers stacked up last year. The Bahamian people would recall that, for the first time in nearly a decade, the murder count in The Bahamas did not exceed the 100-mark last year. A result of a number of new and timely policy directives, combined with

POLICE PROBE SECURITY OFFICER'S MURDER

A Commonwealth Bakery security officer’s life was taken when he was killed following an armed robbery in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

POLICE are now looking into the circumstances surrounding the armed robbery turned homicide.

PLP ACCUSED OF POLITICIZING LABOUR DAY

The Free National Movement (FNM) has accused the Opposition Progressive Liberal Party of politicizing Labour Day. Saying that the PLP was reckless in doing so, the governing party in a statement yesterday said that the PLP is out of touch with the people of The Bahamas.

PM EXTENDS SYMPATHY TO THE RAMSEY AND JOHN FAMILIES

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis in a statement late yesterday evening extending his deepest and heartfelt condolences to the families of Bahamians Alva Ramse and Blair John, who was found dead in a lake in Tarn, Italy.

The Prime Minister noted that he spoke with both families this past weekend, assuring them that the government is doing everything it can to ensure that the remains of
National Security Minister Marvin Dames fired back at the Opposition’s scathing criticisms of the 2019/2020 budget this afternoon accusing them of appealing to the elite in the country and taxing the poor people.

In his address last week Opposition Spokesman on Finance Chester Cooper noted as much adding that this is a budget of special interest.

Mr. Dames said that the shelf life of these political talking points have long passed and there is no place for this kind of rhetoric in a modern Bahamas. He said, “they continue to say that they are the government of the poor, yet they have done nothing to raise Bahamians out of poverty. Fact be told, when you look around at many of them who have been at the forefront of the party; they have done extremely well for themselves and their families.

With boarding schools, palatial residences out east and west, and overseas maids and butlers, surely they were not a government of the people. In fact, this was the government of special interests.”

Mr. Dames also accused the previous administration of being good on talk, but poor on substance. He said, “while they dined on lobster and caviar, and sipped on Dom Pérignon; the poor man’s struggles continue after decades of undelivered promises from the side opposite.

With dilapidated and squandered living conditions, decades of abandonment, outside toilets, and poor infrastructure; yet they are the government of the people? What people?” he asked.

The Ministry of Health advising the general public of the closure of its Flam ingo Gardens Health Facility, Carmichael Road. However, the facility is expected to reopen today, according to Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands who said the reason for the temporary closure is to protect both staff and patients.

There is a problem with the choice of paint used for the repairs and renovations. They used an oil based paint and the problem is that the fumes are unfortunately creating a challenge.

“A similar type of paint was used on another area last week and unfortunately a number of staff members had challenges with inhalation,” the Health Minister said. Clients and patients of the antenatal clinic scheduled for follow up services at Flam ingo Gardens Clinic are advised to attend the South Beach Health Center, East Street South at their usual appointment times.

Other clients in the Flam ingo Gardens health district in need of non-emergency services are asked to visit the Flam ingo Gardens Clinic.

The public and residents of the Flam ingo Gardens Clinic district are further advised that the hours of operations at the clinic are from 9am to 9pm.

According to Dr. Sands, his Ministry conducted an assessment to determine if the clinic was able to reopen today.

The Inter-American Development Bank and the Government of The Bahamas (GoDB) signed the Loan Contract between the two for the execution of the investment program “Skills for Current and Future Jobs in The Bahamas” 994-1307. The general objective of the Program is to increase the employability and quality of employment of beneficiaries, improving access to quality jobs in The Bahamas, with particular emphasis on youth, in three strategic sectors: maritime, medical services and IT/telecommunications. The specific objectives are to: (a) increase relevant skills and employability in productive jobs for Programme beneficiaries; (b) improve the effectiveness of the Public Employment Services (PES); and (c) enhance the capacity of the labour market intelligence system.

The Teled health has designated the Ministry of Labour (MOL) as the Programme Execution Agency (PEA). The MOL will establish a Programme Executing Unit (PEU) within its organisational structure under the Office of the Permanent Secretary. Accordingly, the PEA now invites interested eligible individual consultants to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) indicating qualifications and experience required to provide consulting services of Strategic Communications Consultancy. The contract duration for this consultancy is 12 months, renewable annually. This consultancy shall be based in New Providence. The objective of the consultancy is to provide strategic, organizational, and technical direction to the PEA in the development of a Communications Strategy for internal and external stakeholders. The internal audience is comprised of the Ministry of Labour as the Executing Agency, the Project Steering Committee, and members of the Programme Implementation Unit. The external audience includes current, apprentices, firms, employer groups, academia, training providers, government agencies and civil society organizations.

Specific responsibilities and authorities are itemized in the Terms of Reference (TOR) for this consultancy, which can be accessed via this link, http://ploa.gov.bahamas.gov.bs.

The consultant must hold a post-graduate degree in Business Administration, Marketing, Communications, Journalism or Public Affairs, or related field. He/She must have a minimum of five years of relevant work experience leading the design and implementation of corporate communication strategies.

The Consultant will have superior planning and logistical skills, with ability to identify resources, address and prioritize a wide range of issues and activities for timely completion and a proven ability to take initiative and work independently. He/She will be experienced in coordinating strategic communication efforts and/or initiatives, disseminating knowledge, improving visibility, and developing relevant content. Graphic design experience/knowledge is beneficial, as well as competence in communication, storytelling and messaging, writing, email marketing, media design and development, stakeholder insight and outreach, and marketing.

Additionally, he/she will be competent in:
- Creative writing, data storytelling techniques, message development, graphic design, digital campaigns, social media.
- Coordination experience among multiple stakeholders. Consultant will need to be able to understand different stakeholders to be able to tailor key messages according to their needs/interests.
- Collaboration, teamwork and inclusion – the Consultant will work cooperatively with others independent of background (gender, ethnic origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, background, perspective) or organizational roles, and take a team based and inclusive approach to projects and decision making.
- Innovation and creativity – The Consultant will develop strategic ideas and solutions through creativity, experimentation, and critical thinking.
- Communication and influence – the Consultant will communicate effectively and leverage relationship and strategies to influence others.
- Client focus – the Consultant will understand client needs and provide services that meet their expectations for quality and performance.

Expressions of interest should include a cover letter highlighting the consultant’s interest in the position, relevant experiences and qualifications, a recent copy of the consultant’s curriculum vitae (CV), three written professional references, and a sample of the consultant’s writing. Submissions of Expressions of Interest may be submitted by hand at the address below or by email to edy.labour@bahamas.gov.bs, no later than 5:00 p.m. June 24th, 2019.

Permanent Secretary Ministry of Labour
Dr. Brenda Wakee
Shiloh Street and Church Streets
Nassau, The Bahamas
Re: Strategic Communications Consultant, Skills for Current and Future Jobs in The Bahamas

A nineteen-year old male was yesterday charged before the courts for murder. Javano Hall stood before Chief Magistrate Joy Ann Ferguson-Pratt for the May 30th killing of Shaquille Rolle which took place on Shelly Street, Cottle, Cullermeville. He was not required to enter a plea and was remanded to the Bahamas Department of Corrections until August 7th. He was represented by Attorney Ian Cargill.
“CRIMEDOWN”

[Continued from PAGE 2...]

a clear understanding of strategic goals, followed with sound execution by law enforcement. Thus far for 2019, we are seeing a continuation of this “downward trend,” he added.

The Minister also noted that crimes against the person are down by 16 per cent as a number of prominent offences were down including armed robbery down by 20 per cent. He also said that rape is down by 29 per cent, unlawful sexual intercourse is down by three per cent, and robbery is down by five per cent.

Crimes against the property, he said, are down by five per cent, as a number of offences have decreased including housebreaking which is down 2 per cent, shop-breaking down by 16 per cent, and stolen vehicles down by 27 per cent.

He said, “It is important to note that despite those significant double-digit decreases in key categories, the decrease in crime during the first quarter of this year has improved over the same period last year when only one per cent decrease was observed.”

As of yesterday, there have been 37 murders, a decrease of 21 percent compared to the same period in 2018, when 47 murders occurred.

As murder rates have been decreasing, the National Security Minister said, detection rates have been increasing. As of yesterday, 24 or 65 percent of murders have been detected or solved, which, means that persons have been charged.

He noted that the decreases and other successes are not occurring by coincidence, but rather thought-out and deliberate changes in the way the police force conducts its crime fighting strategies.

Min. Davies also commended the police force on John F. Kennedy Drive, where they were assisted by a group of armed men who held them up and robbed them of personal items.

Police said the culprits made good their escape from the property, but not before shooting one of the officers. Paramedics were called to the scene, attempted to revive the injured man, however he was pronounced dead on the scene. The other two security officers were not injured during this incident.

The Minister added that the incident “The matter is currently being investigated by The Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF) and our thoughts and prayers are with the victim’s family during this difficult time.”

It advised that the Brewery would re-open today following one day of closure yesterday. This homicide followed a Nasau Village killing on Sunday night.

A man was standing in front of his home on Price Street, Nassau Village, when he was approached by occupants of a vehicle, who opened fired on him, hitting him several shots, the body before speeding away. Paramedics were called to the scene, attempted to revive the injured man; however, he was pronounced dead on the scene.

All investigations are ongoing in both incidents.

POLICE PROBE SECURITY OFFICER’S MURDER

[Continued from PAGE 2...]

Min. Administration has worked to move The Bahamas forward, reforming dark-age policies left behind by the callously neglectful PLP, reconsidering infrastructure and securing our schools, as we work to make government more efficient and effective for the people. We are improving the quality and access to education, securing homes, growth and negotiating contracts that will lead to even more jobs, to revamping infrastructure and reducing crime, our government is moving our Nation forward.

That said, the fuelling PLP does everything within their power to keep our country from moving past the archaic policies that turned a blind eye to their obvious corruption and allowed those in power in lever-age government to benefit themselves at the people’s expense.

The fuelling PLP’sLabour Day fissures is yet another blatant example reminding Bahamians how out of touch they are with them as well as the new expectations of leaders in this country when it comes to the environment and transparency. The criticism our friends on the other side received from a local environmental group is warranted; and while it is a shame, it is no surprise that the PLP would fail to realize the growing expectations for environmental responsibilities as they remain out of touch.

While their neglect of the environment is unfortunate, that’s more of a surprise is the PLP’s absolute refusal to abstain from campaigning on Labour Day, which as we’ve discussed previously, was a request by Sir Randol’s wife and appears to be honoured by all except the reckless PLP that perpetually ignores our friends on the environment.

The Ministry of Health wishes to advise members of the public, clients and residents of the Flamingo Gardens Health District, that due to unexpected circumstances, all clinic services at the Flamingo Gardens Health Center, Carriacou Road will be temporarily suspended effective Tuesday June 11, 2019 until further notice.

Anterarral Clients scheduled for follow up services tomorrow June 13th at the Flamingo Gardens Clinic, are advised to attend the South Beach Health Center East Street South at their usual appointment times.

Other Clients in the Flamingo Gardens Health District in need of non-emergency services are asked to visit the Elizabeth Estates, South Beach and Fleming Streets Clinics until services are resumed at the Flamingo Gardens Clinic.

The public and residents of the Flamingo Gardens District, are further advised that the hours of operations at the South Beach Health Center, Elizabeth Estates and Fleming Street Clinics is Thursday to Thursday.

The Ministry of Health apologizes for any inconvenience caused and will continue to provide updates.

Monday June 10th, 2019

THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH
COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT
RE: TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF FLAMINGO GARDENS CLINICS:

PLP ACCUSED OF POLITICIZING LABOUR DAY

[Continued from PAGE 2...]

The Ministry of Health is hopeful that the opposition party will exhibit more respect for the people, the one thing outside its purview for leaders in this country when it comes to the environment and to our country’s timeless traditions.

Regardless, the FNM will continue leading by example and will abstain from politics on Labour Day, because Bahamians deserve a government that respects and works for them, not the political elite,” said the FNM statement.
From the outset, the statement noted that Prime Minister was in regular communication with Foreign Affairs Minister Darren Henfield, adding that his Ministry and its representatives are carefully and diligently handling this very sensitive matter.

The Prime Minister said he noted the report received from High Commissioner of The Bahamas to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Ellison Greenslade, which indicated that he is carefully following the investigation into the deaths of Mr. Ramsey and Mr. John.

Mr. John Ramsey, who resides in Freeport, Grand Bahama, was recently mentioned to have died in the Bahamas. The death of Mr. John Ramsey was confirmed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which assured the family that they will continue to provide regular updates on the investigation and the public on these tragic circumstances.

The Prime Minister is asking the nation to please keep Mr. Ramsey and John’s families in their thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.